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Smallpox imported to Washington, D. C.

WASHINGTON, D. C., April 3, 1900.

SIR: I have the honor to report that 2 cases of smallpox were brought into the District of Columbia yesterday on the schooner *Annie Marts*, last from Port Royal, on the Rappahannock River, Virginia. Both cases have been removed to the smallpox hospital and the remaining member of the crew to the detention camp. The schooner is being disinfected by this department.

Respectfully,

WM. C. WOODWARD, M. D.,
Health Officer.

Smallpox epidemic in Indiana has subsided—Rules of the State board of health have the force of law.

INDIANAPOLIS, IND., March 23, 1900.

SIR: I desire to inform you that the quarantine at Clay City has been raised and there is no further need of disinfecting the mails from that point. The smallpox epidemic in Indiana has quite subsided, for we have now to report but 12 cases in the State. The last 2 cases which appeared did not proceed from home infection. One, a woman who developed the disease in Cass County, a region heretofore free, came directly from New Orleans. The second case in Warren County, a region heretofore free, came from West Virginia, from a part of the State where smallpox exists. Our supreme court has decided that the health rules of the State board of health have all the force of law. We have taken advantage of this to secure the general vaccination of school children.

Respectfully,

J. N. HURTY,
Secretary.

Case of smallpox from the La Cross at New Orleans.

NEW ORLEANS, LA., March 27, 1900.

SIR: I have the honor to report that I advised the New Orleans Cypress Company, Limited, regarding the admission of Joseph Rotolo, with smallpox from their boat *La Cross*, and advised them to have the crew vaccinated and the boat disinfected, and also requested them to notify me when the boat returned.

I was notified this morning of the boat's arrival at this city, whereupon I notified the city board of health.

The city board asked that if this came within the jurisdiction of the Marine Hospital Service, they wished I would take charge of the vessel, as they were at present handicapped. I informed them that I reported the vessel just as I would a house, but under the circumstances would vaccinate the crew and inspect the vessel. On inspection, I found the crew and vessel laying up in the new basin, having returned at once on advice by the company per telegraph. The crew was composed of captain and 6 men; 3 had never been vaccinated, among them the captain. I vaccinated the whole crew.

The *La Cross* is a light draft tugboat, and on inspection proved to be mechanically clean.

On receipt of the telegram, that 1 of the crew had smallpox, the captain destroyed the bedding of the patient and had the whole vessel washed down with boiling hot water.

I advised the captain to burn the mattresses, use sulphur fumigation

in the cabins twenty-four hours, first sealing the cabin air-tight; after which, wash down the whole vessel with a solution of 1-500 bichloride of mercury, and twenty-four hours after this wash down with boiling hot water. The company is anxious to have this vessel clean and will do this work as I had outlined.

I requested the city board of health to send an inspector to see that the work of disinfection is properly done.

I visited the patient, Joseph Rotolo, at the smallpox hospital and found him well taken care of. He is now in the vesicular stage of eruption, confluent on the face.

Since the above writing I have been informed that the inspector reports that the work of disinfection of the *La Cross* is being properly performed, as I had outlined.

Respectfully,

R. H. VON EZDORF,
Assistant Surgeon, U. S. M. H. S., In Temporary Charge.

Smallpox in a family from the steamship Vancouver.

PORTLAND, ME., *March 27, 1900.*

SIR: I have the honor to state that no further cases of smallpox have appeared in the family from the steamship *Vancouver* mentioned in my report of the 20th instant, nor in the crew. The ship sailed for Halifax on the 25th instant. On the 23d instant the chief baker of the ship was taken sick and an eruption appeared on the face at night.

The chairman of the board of health and I saw him on the 23d, and though practically sure it was measles, decision was reserved until the 24th on account of the previous case of smallpox. On the 24th there was no further possibility of doubt, and at the request of the British vice-consul the patient was admitted to this hospital (lazaretto).

I report this in detail because of the case of smallpox, and also because of the case of measles reported by the ship's surgeon on arrival in port, to which I alluded in my report of the 20th instant, and of which diagnosis I began to be very suspicious in spite of the emphatic statements of the ship's surgeon.

Respectfully,

S. D. BROOKS,
Surgeon, U. S. M. H. S.

Smallpox at Folsom and Catskill, N. Mex.

FORT STANTON, N. MEX., *March 21, 1900.*

SIR: I have the honor to report that in accordance with Bureau letter of February 27, 1900 (G. and J. H. W.), directing me to proceed to Folsom and Catskill, N. Mex., relative to smallpox, I went to Trinidad, Colo., and consulted with the city and county health officers. Both informed me that they had been misinformed in the first instance as to the number of cases at Folsom. It had been written to these gentlemen that there were 60 cases in Folsom, which proved to be false, there being only 8 at that particular time; therefore, the regulations which had been made to quarantine Folsom were revoked. These gentlemen inform me that the young physician in charge at Folsom is perfectly reliable and efficient and that he keeps them well informed.

There have been 2 cases of smallpox at Catskill. This is only a small lumber town, 27 miles from Trinidad. There are no known cases there now.

The city and county health officers stated that they did not believe the conditions justified any interference. Trinidad being the town